

### **Amendments to the Claims**

**Claim 1 (Previously Presented)** A power unit for rear wheels of a four-wheeled vehicle, the power unit comprising:

- a gear transmission for the rear wheels;

- an automatic V-belt transmission for providing power from an engine to the gear transmission;

- a final reduction gear having an input shaft connected to the gear transmission via a propeller shaft;

- a brake device for the rear wheels mounted to the input shaft of the final reduction gear;

- a belt cover having an air inlet hole and an air discharging hole covering the automatic V-belt transmission, the air inlet hole for receiving air to cool the automatic V-belt transmission and the air discharging hole for outputting the air from the belt cover; and

- an air discharging duct connected to the belt cover such that the air discharging duct communicates with the air discharging hole, the air discharging duct having an outlet part for discharging air,

- wherein the air discharging duct extends to a vicinity of the brake device so as to discharge air from the outlet part toward the brake device.

**Claim 2 (Canceled)**

**Claim 3 (Previously Presented)** The power unit as claimed in claim 1, wherein the brake device is a wet multiple-disk braking device.

**Claim 4 (Previously Presented)** The power unit as claimed in claim 3,

- wherein an entirety of the wet multiple-disk braking device is mounted in front of the final reduction gear in a direction of movement of the four-wheeled vehicle,

- wherein the wet multiple-disk braking device and the final reduction gear are housed inside a single casing, and

- wherein the single casing has an oil sump under the wet multiple-disk braking device.

Claim 5 (**Currently Amended**) A brake cooling mechanism of a four-wheeled vehicle, the brake cooling mechanism comprising:

a casing for housing a final reduction gear for rear wheels and a wet multiple-disk braking device, the wet multiple-disk braking device being mounted in front of the final reduction gear in a direction of forward movement of the four-wheeled vehicle; and

an oil sump which is provided in the casing under the wet multiple-disk braking device, wherein a part of the casing which houses the wet multiple-disk braking device has a front surface that is tilted with respect to a direction of width of the four-wheeled vehicle; and wherein the front surface of the part of the casing forms a front surface of the oil sump.

Claims 6 and 7 (**Canceled**)

Claim 8 (**Previously Presented**) The power unit as claimed in claim 4, wherein the outlet part of the air discharging duct is provided opposite a front surface of the single casing inside which the wet multiple-disk braking device and the final reduction gear are housed.